



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

***Raised Bill No. 6507***

LCO No. 3298

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Aging

Introduced by:  
(AGE)

***AN ACT IMPROVING PHARMACY CARE TO RESIDENTS OF LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-363a of the general statutes is amended by  
2 adding subsection (g) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

3 (NEW) (g) The Commissioner of Social Services, in consultation  
4 with the pharmacy review panel established in section 17-362a, shall  
5 update and expand by June 30, 2003, and annually thereafter, the list of  
6 drugs that are included in the drug return program. Such list shall, at  
7 a minimum, include the fifty drugs with the highest average wholesale  
8 price that meet the requirements for the program, as established in  
9 subsection (a) of this section.

10 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) (a) The Commissioner of Social  
11 Services, in consultation with the Connecticut Long-Term Care  
12 Pharmacy Alliance, shall implement, within available appropriations,  
13 a pharmacy-based disease management program for residents of long-  
14 term care facilities. The program shall include: (1) Management of  
15 common diseases of long-term care facility residents; and (2)

16 reasonable reimbursements to pharmacies for services provided to  
17 residents in long-term care facilities, as described in subsection (b) of  
18 this section. The commissioner shall establish such reimbursement  
19 levels in consultation with the Connecticut Long-Term Care Pharmacy  
20 Alliance. The commissioner shall report the results of such program,  
21 including the cost savings associated with said program, annually,  
22 commencing January 1, 2004, to the joint standing committees of the  
23 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public  
24 health, human services and appropriations and the budgets of state  
25 agencies, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes.

26 (b) The Commissioner of Social Services shall provide  
27 reimbursement to pharmacies or pharmacists for services provided to  
28 residents in long-term care facilities, in addition to those  
29 reimbursements provided in chapter 319v of the general statutes,  
30 provided such services improve the quality of care to residents of such  
31 facilities and produce cost savings to the state, as determined by the  
32 commissioner. Such services shall include, but not be limited to,  
33 disease management services, emergency and delivery services  
34 provided such services are offered on all medications, including  
35 intravenous therapy, twenty-four hours per day and seven days per  
36 week, automated dispensing systems and unit of use packaging.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2003</i>

***Statement of Purpose:***

To improve the prescription drug reimbursement system in long-term care facilities.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*